

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 932

By Williams

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Ima Justis of Bulls Gap.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Ima Justis; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Justis was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a civic-minded individual, Ima Justis was active in the Democrat Party, ably served as a member of the Tennessee State Democrat Executive Committee for twenty-eight years, and rendered astute service as Mayor of Bulls Gap and as an alderwoman for three terms; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Justis served with acumen and alacrity as the owner and operator of Jayma Florist for twenty-three years, in which position she earned the respect of her customers for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, Ima Justis was the quintessential “pillar of the community” who served as a distinguished member of several noteworthy organizations, including the Ladies Auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, of which she was a past president, the Bulls Gap Order of the Eastern Star, of which she was a charter member, Grand Representative to the State of Mississippi, and Worthy Matron of the Bulls Gap and Whitesburg Orders of the Eastern Star; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Justis was an active and devout member of the First United Methodist Church, which she served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, she was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Justis was preceded in death by her parents, Claude and Emma Smith; her sister, Reba Myers; and her brother, Bruce Smith; and

WHEREAS, during her life, Ima Justis enjoyed the loving companionship of her husband, Bill Justis, and she was the proud mother of Judy and her husband, Harry Burton, and William G. Justis III and his wife, Judy; and

WHEREAS, she will be fondly remembered by her grandchildren, Brienna Justis, Sylvia Headrick, Reverend Todd Everhart, Kent Everhart, Dylan Guy Justis, and Butch Burton, as well as her great-grandchildren, Jake Everhart, Shandi Burton, and Garet Myers; she will be sorely missed by her special sister-in-law, Katherine Justice, along with several nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, Ima Justis leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Ima Justis, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our deepest sympathy and offer our heartfelt condolences to the family of Mrs. Justis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.